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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q67795

Kiyo MORITA

Appln. No.: 10/020,956

Group Art Unit: 3654

Confirmation No.: 1153

Examiner: Sang K. Kim

Filed: December 19, 2001

For: TAPE REEL

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated April 16, 2004, please consider the remarks as submitted herewith on the accompanying pages.

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 are all the claims pending in the application.

Claims 1-3 are now rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by the newly cited U.S. Patent No. 4,807,826 (Iwahashi).

In the rejection under § 102(b), the Examiner alleges that Iwahashi shows the tape reel with a hub having a cylindrical shape; and an upper flange 17 and a lower flange 10, respectively, provided at an upper end and a lower end of the hub, wherein a magnetic tape is wrapped around an outer peripheral surface 11 of the hub, and means for gradually decreasing the distance between said upper flange 17 and said lower flange 10 outside an outer peripheral